IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the written specification as follows wherein added text is indicated with underlining and deleted text is marked with ~~strikethrough~~ or enclosed in [[double-brackets]]. These amendments are being made relative to the published patent application having publication number US 2004/0055017 A1.

Please amend paragraph **[0008]** as follows:

[0008] According to one aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method to enable user authoring of content within an interactive television environment. Television content is communicated to a receiver system, the television content is [[to be]] presented to user by the receiver system. Also at the source system, authoring data, associated with the television content, is communicated to the receiver system. At the source system, an authoring application is communicated to the receiver system, the authoring application being executable by the receiver system to enable the user to author content utilizing the authoring data.

Please amend paragraph **[0041]** as follows:

[0041] **Figure 3** is a diagrammatic representation of an exemplary data stream **68** that may, according to one exemplary embodiment of the present invention, be outputted from each of a number of multiplexers **50** deployed in headend system **18**. In the exemplary interactive television environment **10**, the application and content data may be presented to a broadcast server **20** as distinct modules. For example, the application data may constitute directory modules **70**, code modules **72** and data modules **74**. The content information may be included within content modules **76**. Each of the modules **70-76** is uniquely identified as being of a

particular module type. A directory module **70** has a unique identifier so as enabled it to be identified within a data stream **68** without further information. A directory module **70** furthermore contains information constituting a directory of code modules **72** and data modules **74** that form a particular interactive television application. Accordingly, a set-top box **38** may utilize a directory module **70** to identify all code modules **72** and/or data modules **74** that are required for assembling and executing an interactive television application. The directory module **70** is typically accessed and processed prior to the other modules, so as to enable the set-top box **38** to correctly identify and interpret other modules included within a data stream **68**. As mentioned above, a headend system **18** will typically implement a carousel whereby the modules **70-76** are transmitted in a cyclic, repetitive manner. The set-top box **38** may ~~executed~~ execute a module manager, such as that described in U.S. patent no. 6,427,238, which operates to control the manner in which modules are requested by an interactive television application, received from various sources (e.g., application and content sources **34** and **32**) and matched with interactive television applications requiring such modules.

    Please amend paragraph **[0044]** as follows:

[0044] Similarly, the video data **84** may be a video segment to be displayed to a user and optionally made available to the user to include within user-authored content. For example, the video data **84** could be a replay video segment showing a goal scored during a sporting event. This video segment would then be available to a user to include within a message or other authored content pertaining to the sporting event. The audio data **86** may, for example, be a song (e.g., an MP3 [[MP#]] or .wav file), an audio track or excerpt, a ring tone or sound effect that would be available to a user to include within a message or other authored content.

Please amend paragraph **[0104]** as follows:

[0104]   6. Media releases: During a television broadcast, information concerning a media

release (e.g., publication of a book, commencement of a theatre show, release of a

DVD or CD etc.) may be presented for inclusion within a message. For example, the

title of a new book may be presented. In addition, options to buy merchandise

associated with the media event (e.g., a CD) may be presented by the authoring

application **98**. ~~IThe~~ The authoring data **78** that is presented for inclusion in a

message may relate to a purchase of the merchandise or product associated with a

media event. For example, the authoring data **78** may state "A friend of yours offers

you a new DVD "Lord of The Rings (extended version)" call 0 100-503-503 (local

call fee) or send an email and give your details to receive your gift." Accordingly, a

particular user may author and send a message to a friend regarding the purchase of

an item that the user believes the friend may be interested in acquiring.

Please amend paragraph **[0107]** as follows:

[0107]   9. Graphic content: In a further embodiment to the present invention, the authoring

data **78** may include logos, images or other graphic elements that are contextual, or

relevant to, concurrently distributed content. Such logos, images or graphical

elements may be made available via the authoring application **98** for inclusion within

authored images. For example, certain images depicting characters or objects within

a television show could be broadcast, or made available within the authoring

application **98** for user selection and inclusion within authored content **88**. A user

[[User]] may, in one exemplary embodiment, select an icon associated with a hero of

a television show, and include this icon in a message (as opposed to typing in the

hero's name).

Please amend paragraph [0127] as follows:

[0127] While the machine-readable medium **1692** is shown in an exemplary embodiment to be a single medium, the term "machine-readable medium" should be taken to include a single medium or multiple media (e.g., a centralized or distributed database, and/or associated caches and servers) that store the one or more sets of instructions. The term "machine-readable medium" shall also be taken to include any medium that is capable of storing, encoding or carrying a set of instructions for execution by the machine and that cause the machine to perform any one or more of the methodologies of the present invention. The term "machine-readable medium" shall accordingly be taken to <u>include</u> ~~included~~, but not be limited to, solid-state memories, optical <u>media,</u> and magnetic media~~, and carrier wave signals~~.